CFS Production

Now that Production is available, BOP access will be granted to users after the completion of December month-end activities, which is currently scheduled for December 27th.

During our recent testing we identified a few issues that affect the Funds Management module, which also impact the BOPs.   These concerns have been raised to the Commerce Support Center (CSC). Since these issues will affect you, we want you to be aware of them.

Issue Identified with the Mass Reclass

In the past, moving resources was limited to available fund balances in the programs. Mass Reclassification automates the process of shifting obligations and resources to the new project codes and programs codes and can quickly implement the budget changes. However, the following issues have been identified with the new process:

Issue: The Mass Reclass delivery does not adjust/create new MR category B apportionments utilizing the existing category B apportionment program 1 level pools. The Mass Reclass software correctly reduces an existing category B apportionment P1 pool for each "old" P4 level item being Mass Reclassed. However when the "new" P4 level category B apportionment pool is created, an entirely new category B item is created at the P4 level, thus ignoring the category B item structure that is already in use. This process can create many additional category B items, depending on the number of P4 programs being Mass Reclassed.

> **Effect on BOP** – When BOPs are created, the Superpools are used so that a user does not have to create multiple detail lines or multiple BOPs because there of insufficient funds in an Item number. The problem arises when BOP transfers move funds from one organization to another greater than the amount in an Item number. Also beginning this year, we are creating an Apportionment for each quarter, therefore creating multiple Item Numbers for a program code. Because additional Item Numbers will be created, the BOP transfer functionally will not work if the BOP transfer includes more than 1 item number. When approving the BOP on the WF002, the system displays an "Error: "Unable to reduce allotments for BOP transferring. Until this is corrected, we will remove the TRNSFR code from the drop down list BOP screen. You will not be able to transfer between FMCs for Direct and Reimbursable funds.

Issues Identified with the FY 05 Budget Enhancement

Also in our FY05 Budget Enhancement release there were changes made to the Allotment screen, which moved the Item Number from the Control Page to the Detail.

Effect on BOP – On the BOP Control screen, the Category field has been removed from the screen.

Issue: When the BOP is planned at a specific project code level, the BOP transfer functionality will not work. In the CBS test instance, the transfer was impacting only 1 item number on the allotment screen. Because the allotment was created at the 000000 project code level and the BOP was created at a specific project code, the BOP project code does not match the allotment project code. When approving the BOP on the WF002, the system displays an "Error: "Unable to reduce allotments for BOP transferring".

Effect on BOP – Many of you plan the BOPs at the project code level so that reports can reflect the funding at the project level. Last year, NOAA planned and transferred hundreds of BOPs that were planned at a specific project code. The Transfer functionality allows transfers to be done immediately without having to go through the NOAA Budget Office, which would drastically slow the process down and negatively impact the way that NOAA does business. As stated above, we will remove the TRNSFR code from the drop down list BOP screen. You will not be able to transfer between FMCs for Direct and Reimbursable funds until this is corrected. Since the TRNSFR is not available, continue to plan your BOPs at the project level.

Issue: Planning BOPs after the Mass Reclass. Now that plans will be entered during December and January, what months should we use to plan for the 1st quarter. Original obligations that have been reclassed from old projects will retain their original obligation dates. The obligations created by the Mass Reclass in the new projects will have an Effective Date of December.

Effect on BOP – At the Business Rules meeting, it was decided to enter plans for the 1st quarter using the 01-Dec-2005 Effective Date. BOP plans for the remainder of the fiscal year should be planned using the 1st day of each month. CBS will coordinate with Finance to ensure that December GL period is kept in an "open status" so that BOPs can be entered for the 1st quarter.

Budget Help Desk

The CBS Budget Team number is 301-444-8555. Call us if you have questions.

If you need help or answers with the reimbursable screen, call the Reimbursable Help Desk at 301-444-8556.